USGS
science for a changing world

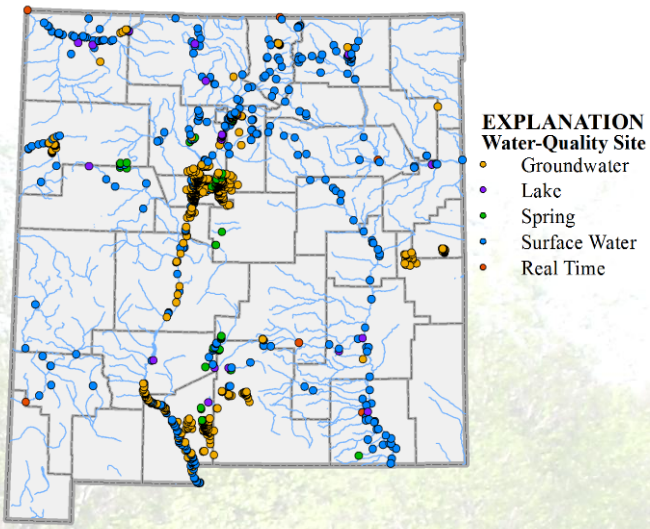
New Mexico Water Science Center

WATER-QUALITY SCIENCE

Tools used by the USGS to assess groundwater and surface-water quality include:

- Real-Time monitoring
- Long-term monitoring
- Stormwater monitoring
- Geochemical modeling
- Regression and trends analysis
- Geospatial database development
- Estimation of constituent concentrations and loads
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) assessments
- Data storage on the publicly available USGS National Water Information System (NWISWeb)
- Mineralogical, hydrological, geochemical, and biological water-quality impact assessments
- Groundwater age dating using environmental tracers, including isotopes and dissolved gases
- Water-quality analysis at USGS laboratories, including low-level (parts-per-trillion) analysis

USGS MONITORING IN NEW MEXICO, 1991-2011



The U.S. Geological Survey has been collecting water-quality data in New Mexico since 1900. Today (2012) the New Mexico Water Science Center database contains more than 9,400 sites with discrete water-quality data. In water year 2011 more than 1,800 water-quality samples were collected in New Mexico. U.S. Geological Survey National Water Information System (NWISWeb) data are available on the World Wide Web, at URL: http://nwis.waterdata.usgs.gov/nm/nwis/qwdata .

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), New Mexico Water Science Center, works in cooperation with municipalities, counties, tribes, and other local, State, and Federal agencies in New Mexico to provide reliable and impartial water-quality data and interpretation to resource managers, planners, other stakeholders, and the general public. The New Mexico Water Science Center routinely collects water-quality data for streams, lakes, springs, groundwater, soil, and sediment, in addition to performing ecological assessments. Most water-quality samples are analyzed by USGS laboratories, which conduct detailed quality-assurance evaluations and provide access to the latest technology for specialized analysis of organic compounds, isotopes, age tracers, mercury, and microorganisms.

The New Mexico Water Science Center has recently collected water-quality data to help assess: (1) the status of and trends in surface-water quality in streams throughout New Mexico; (2) the status of and trends in groundwater quality in the Albuquerque area and the Rincon Valley; (3) stormwater quality and related constituent loading in the Albuquerque area; and (4) the quality of water bodies for which Total Maximum Daily Loads have been or might be established.

For additional information on USGS activities and capabilities, or for access to historical and real-time water-quality data, please visit the New Mexico Water Science Center Web site at: http://nm.water.usgs.gov or the national Web site at: http://water.usgs.gov . If we can assist you with data collection or interpretation to address a specific water-quality related issue or concern that you may have, please contact us directly at one of the phone numbers or email addresses provided on the reverse side. We look forward to serving you in the near future.

New Mexico Water Science Center

WATER MISSION: To provide reliable, impartial, timely information that is needed to understand the Nation's water resources. The Water Mission actively promotes the use of this information by decision makers to:

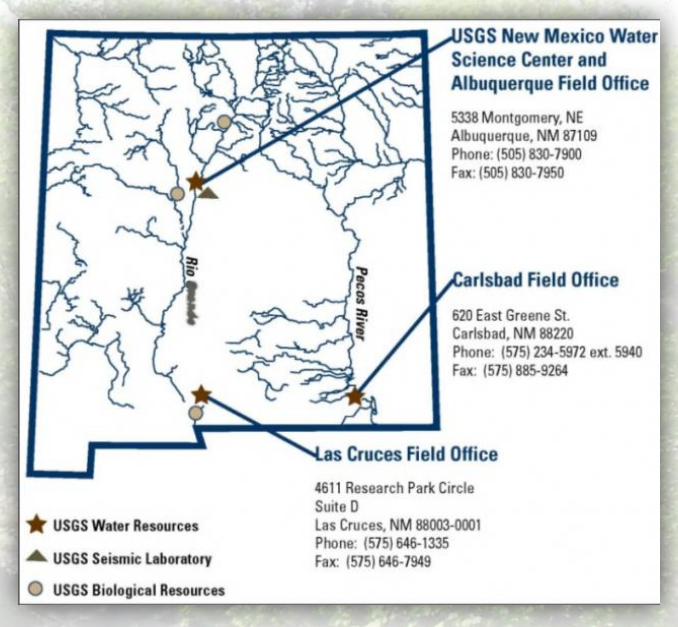
- **Minimize the loss of life and property as a result of water-related natural hazards, such as floods, droughts, and land movement.**
- **Effectively manage groundwater and surface-water resources for domestic, agriculture, commercial, industrial, recreational, and ecological uses.**
- **Protect and enhance water resources for human health, aquatic health, and environmental quality.**
- **Contribute to wise physical and economic development of the Nation's resources for the benefit of present and future generations.**

USGS Water-Quality Laboratories include:

USGS National Water Quality Laboratory
USGS Mercury Research Laboratory
USGS Ohio Water Microbiology Laboratory
USGS Organic Geochemistry Research Laboratory
USGS Reston Chlorofluorocarbon Laboratory
USGS Reston Stable Isotope Laboratory
USGS Sediment Laboratories (located in CA, IO, LA, KY, MO, MT, and NM)

USGS Water-Quality Programs include:

Cooperative Water Program
National Water-Quality Assessment
National Stream Quality Accounting Network
Hydrologic Benchmark Network
Groundwater Resources Program



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